

The conference aims to explore the relationship between historiography and paradoxography in Greek and Roman literature at various levels. On the one hand, it intends to delve into the historical dimension of paradoxography. On the other hand, the conference aims to uncover the functions of *mirabilia* in historiography.

Salle polyvalente
L.C. Christine de Pizan
Place Cardinal Mercier, 31
1348 Louvain-la-Neuve

Organizers:

Nicolas Meunier
Stefan Schorn
Kelly Shannon-Henderson
Pietro Zaccaria

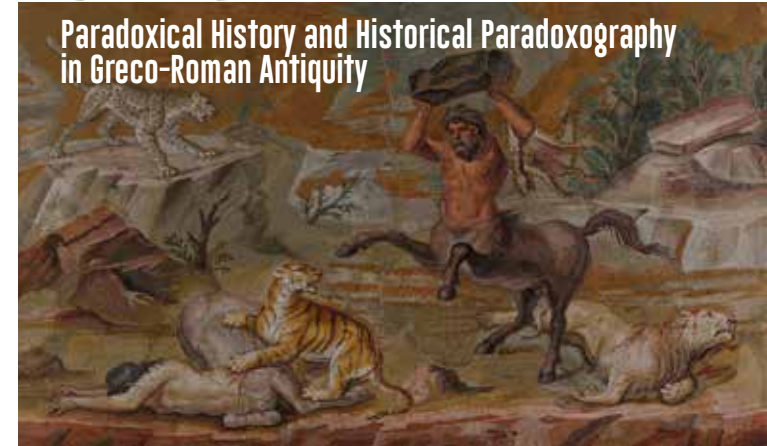


UCLouvain



WONDERFUL (HI)STORIES

Paradoxical History and Historical Paradoxography
in Greco-Roman Antiquity



PROGRAM

28-29 MAY 2026

28 May (Salle polyvalente)

10:30-11:00 Welcome and Introduction

Session 1 | Chair: Ide François

11:00-11:30 Luuk Huitink,
University of Amsterdam
No Wonder? Herodotus and the Marvelous

11:30-12:00 Lisa Irene Hau,
University of Glasgow
The Marvellous in Late Classical and Hellenistic Historiography

12:00-12:30 Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch

Session 2 | Chair: Stefan Schorn

14:00-14:30 Jackie Elliott,
University of Colorado Boulder
Paradoxography at the Margins of the Record: The Case of Cato's Origines

14:30-15:00 Pietro Zaccaria, KU Leuven &
Monica Berti, Universität Leipzig
The Historiographical Horizon of Ancient Paradoxography

15:00-15:30 Discussion

15:30-16:00 Coffee

Session 3 | Chair: Pietro Zaccaria

16:00-16:30 Irene Pajón Leyra,
University of Seville
Material and Immaterial Traces of an Extraordinary Past: Relics in the Mirabiles auscultationes

16:30-17:00 Søren Lund Sørensen,
Freie Universität Berlin
Antigonos as a Paradigmatic Compiler of Marvellous Accounts

17:00-17:30 Discussion

Conference dinner

29 May (Salle polyvalente)

Session 4 | Chair: Kelly Shannon-Henderson

9:00-9:30 Nicolas Meunier, UCLouvain
Livy and Paradoxography: Ambiguities, Functions, and Narrative Strategies

9:30-10:00 Rhiannon Ash,
University of Oxford
The Tiny Fig Which Crushed Carthage! Historical Paradoxography and Pliny the Elder (HN 15.74-76)

10:00-10:30 Discussion

10:30-11:00 Coffee

Session 5 | Chair: Nicolas Meunier

11:00-11:30 Kelly Shannon-Henderson,
University of Cincinnati
Marvels as lieux de mémoire in Suetonius' Caesares

11:30-12:00 Diederik Burgersdijk,
Utrecht University & Università di Bologna
Marvellous Rivers in Ammianus Marcellinus' Res Gestae

12:00-12:30 Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch

Session 6 | Chair: Aaron Kachuck

14:00-14:30 Joseph Verheyden, KU Leuven
Talking Animals and Many Other Marvelous Encounters with the Animal World in Early Christian Literature

14:30-15:00 Julie Van Pelt, Ghent University
Marvels and Miracles in Early Byzantine Lives of Anchorite Monks

15:00-15:30 Discussion

15:30-16:00 Conclusions